

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1554

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, NO, SP

SUBJ: VISIT TO SPAIN OF NORWEGIAN YOUNG CONSERVATIVE PARTY

LEADER--PER CHRISTIAN FOSS, MAY 9-16

1. FON OFF UNDER DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS
COLDING HAS ASKED IF EMBASSY COULD HELP ARRANGE FOR TWO
CONSERVATIVE PARTY YOUTH LEADERS TO MEET WITH EMBASSY
MADRID OFFICIALS DURING THEIR VISIT TO SPAIN MAY 9-16.

2. YOUNG CONSERVATIVE LEADER PER CHRISTIAN FOSS AND HIS
CENTRAL BOARD MEMBER JENS LORENTZEN WILL VISIT MADRID
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN SPAIN.
THEY ARE TRAVELING ON A GRANT FROM NORWEGIAN FOREIGN
MINISTRY AND WILL BE PROGRAMMED BY SECRETARY ARILD
WEGENER OF NORWEGIAN EMBASSY MADRID.

3. WEGENER IS ARRANGING FOR FOSS AND LORENTZEN TO MEET
WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND POLITICAL LEADERS IN
SPAIN TO GAIN A FULLER UNDERSTANDING OF POLITICAL
SITUATION THERE. COLDING ASKED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE
FOR THEM TO MEET APPROPRIATE US EMBASSY OFFICIALS
TO (A) LEARN ABOUT US-SPANISH RELATIONS, (B)
OUR RECENT BASE AGREEMENT, AND (C) OUR VIEWS ON NATO
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MEMBERSHIP FOR SPAIN. IN ADDITION, WE BELIEVE

IT WOULD BE VALUABLE FOR NORWEGIANS (D) TO LEARN
MORE ABOUT CONCRETE STEPS SPANISH GOVERNMENT IS
TAKING TO DEMOCRATIZE COUNTRY.

4. FOSS, 25, IS AN OSLO UNIVERSITY STUDENT,
HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE CHAIRMAN OF YOUNG CONSERVATIVES
FOR THREE YEARS AND WILL CONTINUE AT LEAST UNTIL MID-
1977. A FORCEFUL VOICE AMONG YOUNG CONSERVATIVES,
HE HAS VISITED PORTUGAL TWICE ON GOVERNMENT GRANTS.
AS A CONSERVATIVE HE SUPPORTS NATO, CLOSE TIES WITH
US AND ACTIVE NORWEGIAN COOPERATION IN EUROPE. HE
IS NOW WORKING IN GOVERNMENT AS PART OF HIS MILITARY
SERVICE. LORENTZEN IS A STUDENT AT BERGEN UNIVERSITY.

5. NORWEGIANS ARE TAKING POSITIVE BUT CAUTIOUS APPROACH
TO DEVELOPMENTS IN SPAIN, AND WE BELIEVE VISITS
SUCH AS THIS ONE CAN PROVIDE BETTER APPRECIATION HERE
OF DEVELOPMENTS IN SPAIN. IF EMBASSY MADRID
SEES NO OBJECTIONS WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL
IF AN EMBASSY OFFICER WOULD MEET WITH THE NORWEGIANS
AND GIVE THEM APPROPRIATE BRIEFING. ARRANGEMENTS
SHOULD BE MADE THROUGH WEGENER AT NORWEGIAN EMBASSY.
WE WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING EMBASSY'S REACTION
SO WE CAN INFORM FOREIGN OFFICE.
BREMER

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